



Investing in Conservation

Indiana Forest Stewardship Coordinating
Committee
February 11, 2020

INDIANA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

About INCA

Formed in 2004, the Indiana Conservation Alliance (INCA) is a group of organizations sharing a common interest in the protection, stewardship and sustainable use of our natural resources.

Mission: A unified voice advocating for public funding for land, water, and wildlife conservation



INDIANA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

How is land, water and wildlife conservation funded?

Federal

Land and Water Conservation Fund

Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act

Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act

State and Tribal Wildlife Grant Program

Endangered Species Act





How is land, water and wildlife conservation funded?

State

Environmental license plate fees (to President Harrison Conservation Trust)

General funds: Appropriations to Harrison Conservation Trust

Dedicated funds: hunting & fishing license fees

Donations: Indiana Nongame Wildlife Fund

State and local grants through Land and Water Conservation Fund

Declining support

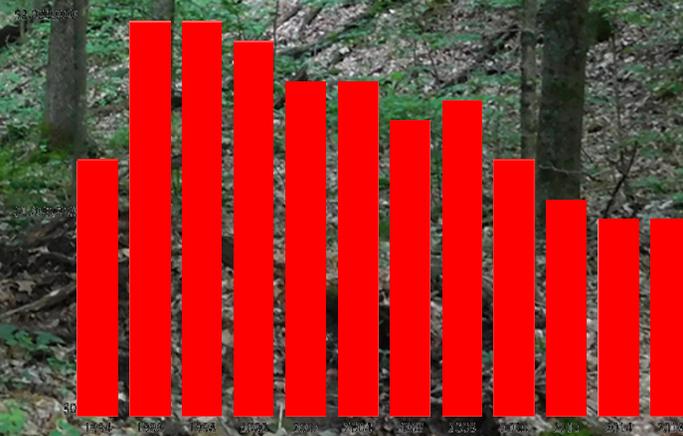
Share of total state budget for Conservation/Environment

- 2007-2009: 1.4%
- 2019-2021: 0.8%



President Harrison Conservation Trust

- No meaningful general fund appropriation since 2009
- Environmental license plate revenue declined by over 50% in last 20 years





Indiana Outdoor Stewardship Act (2019)

Dedicate the share of existing sales tax revenue generated by the sale of outdoor equipment and sporting goods — i.e., camping equipment, hunting and fishing equipment, hiking equipment, bicycling equipment — to state land, water and wildlife conservation programs.

Programs designated to receive IOSA funds:

- President Harrison Conservation Trust
- State Wildlife Action Plan and Wildlife Diversity Program
- Maintenance and repair of buildings and facilities on DNR properties

How much money would be raised?

- Texas: \$277 million (2018-19 allocation)
- Virginia: Up to \$13 million/year (\$10.6 million in 2015)
- Georgia: \$20 million/year estimated

**Indiana: \$29 million to \$62 million a year
(estimated)**



Return on Investment

Harrison Conservation Trust

\$61 million state funding leveraged \$74 million private/partner funds

Bicentennial Nature Trust

Every \$1 in BNT funds leveraged \$2.32 in private funding

Started with \$20 million in state funds, \$10 million from Lilly Endowment

All BNT funds committed



Supporters

Eagle Creek Watershed

Friends of Lake Monroe

Greenways Foundation of Indiana

Hoosier Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society

Hoosier Environmental Council

Hoosier Hikers Council

Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

The Indiana Chapter of The Nature Conservancy

Indiana Native Plant Society

Indiana Parks Alliance

Indiana Sportsman's Roundtable

Indiana Wildlife Federation

Indiana Forest Alliance

Izaak Walton League, Indiana Division

League of Women Voters of Indiana

Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District

NICHES Land Trust

Outdoor Industry Association

Quality Deer Management Association

Save Maumee Grassroots Organization

Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter

South Bend-Elkhart Audubon Society

INDIANA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

What happened?



- House Bill 1376 introduced in 2019 session— bipartisan sponsorship
- Bill not heard in House Natural Resources Committee
- Fallback effort for general fund appropriations in Budget Bill not successful, except...
- \$150 million appropriated for deferred maintenance at state properties including DNR; \$29 million allocated to DNR to date

Benefits of Investment in Wildlife Conservation and Outdoor Recreation

Enhances quality of life
Outdoor recreation and
tourism
Ecosystem services

INDIANA

STATE OUTDOOR
RECREATION GENERATES:



\$15.7 BILLION
IN CONSUMER
SPENDING ANNUALLY



143,000
DIRECT JOBS

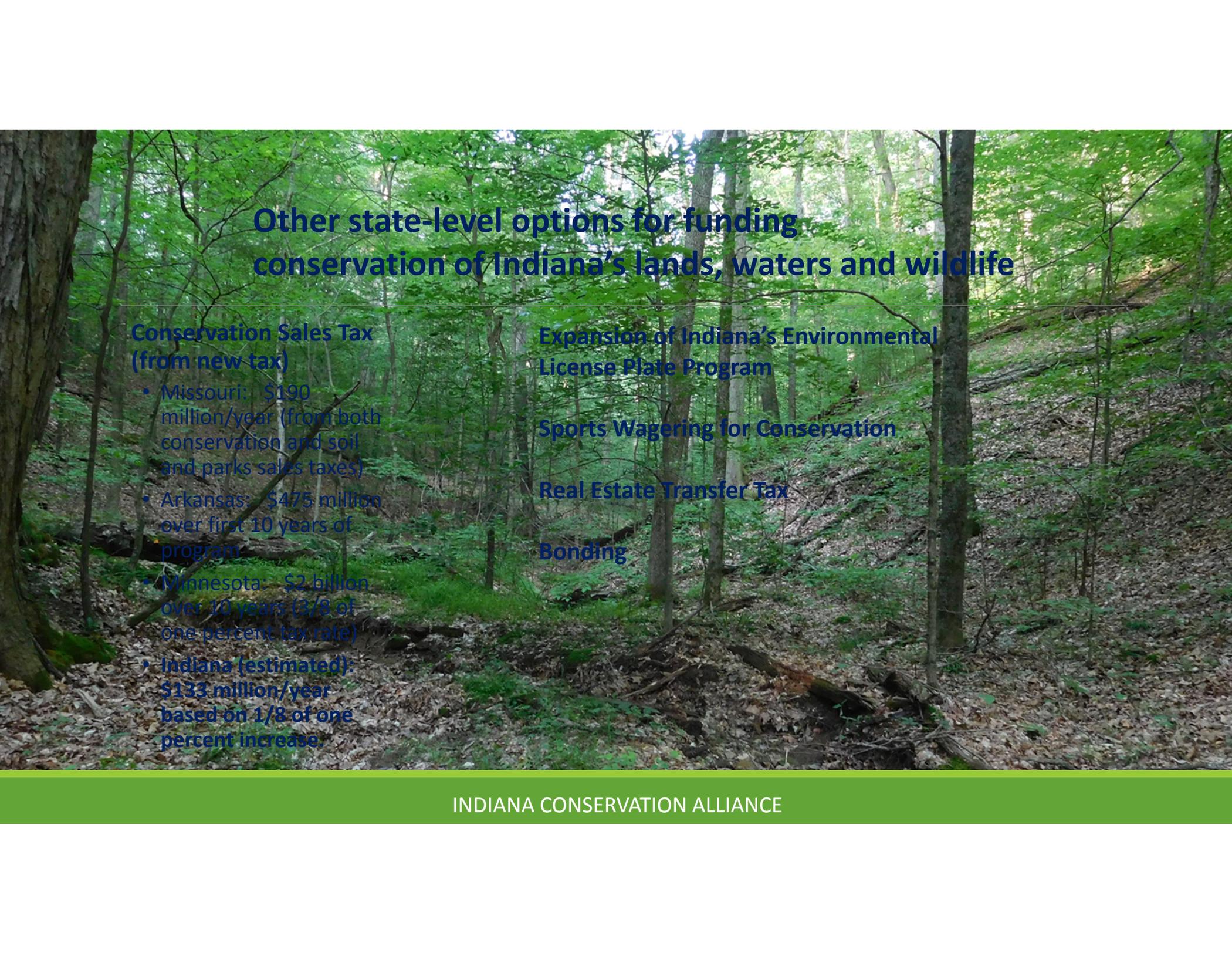


\$4.3 BILLION
IN WAGES
AND SALARIES



\$1.1 BILLION
IN STATE AND LOCAL
TAX REVENUE

SOURCE: OUTDOOR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION



Other state-level options for funding conservation of Indiana's lands, waters and wildlife

Conservation Sales Tax (from new tax)

- Missouri: \$190 million/year (from both conservation and soil and parks sales taxes)
- Arkansas: \$475 million over first 10 years of program
- Minnesota: \$2 billion over 10 years (3/8 of one percent tax rate)
- Indiana (estimated): \$133 million/year based on 1/8 of one percent increase.

Expansion of Indiana's Environmental License Plate Program

Sports Wagering for Conservation

Real Estate Transfer Tax

Bonding



In Congress.....

- Recovering America's Wildlife Act
- Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Restore Our Parks
- Annual appropriations



Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA)

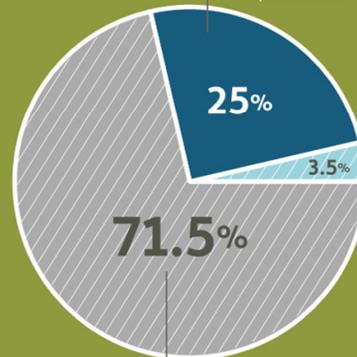
- ...amends the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes. The bill will fund:
 - Implementation of State Wildlife Action Plans
 - Wildlife conservation education and up to 10% of funds on wildlife-associated recreation
 - Recovery of federally-listed species under ESA
 - Manage/control invasive species, nuisance species, diseases, and other threats to State's SGCM
 - Law enforcement activities that directly address a SGCM or its habitat

\$1.3 Billion Annual Funding Shortfall For Fish And Wildlife Conservation

The Need for Increased Funding

States' Share of Wildlife Funding
\$440 Million

Current State and Tribal Wildlife Grant Program Funding
\$62 Million

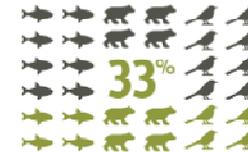


Needed Federal Funding
\$1.3 Billion



America's Fish & Wildlife are in Danger

We're facing a funding challenge that threatens our nation's precious fish and wildlife.



Americans love the outdoors and the wildlife that inhabits it... but 33% of all U.S. species are at risk of becoming endangered!



101.6 MILLION
Americans enjoy a form of wildlife-associated recreation annually*



\$887 BILLION
outdoor recreation industry contributes to our national economy annually*



76%
of Americans agree we need to increase the number of programs available for Americans to enjoy nature, the outdoors, and wildlife.

What will it take to protect our nation's fish and wildlife?

Current Annual State Wildlife Grant Funding



\$62 MILLION

Wildlife Funding Needed Annually



\$1.3 BILLION

12,000

Species of fish and wildlife that are in greatest need of conservation, and will be helped by passing the Recovering America's Wildlife Act.



EXAMPLES OF SPECIES AT RISK OF BECOMING ENDANGERED.



Monarch Butterfly



Lake Sturgeon



Golden Eagle



Blue Jay



Gopher Tortoise



CALL OR WRITE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TODAY TO SPEAK UP FOR YOUR FISH AND WILDLIFE.

Go to www.recoveringwildlife.com to learn more and write to us!

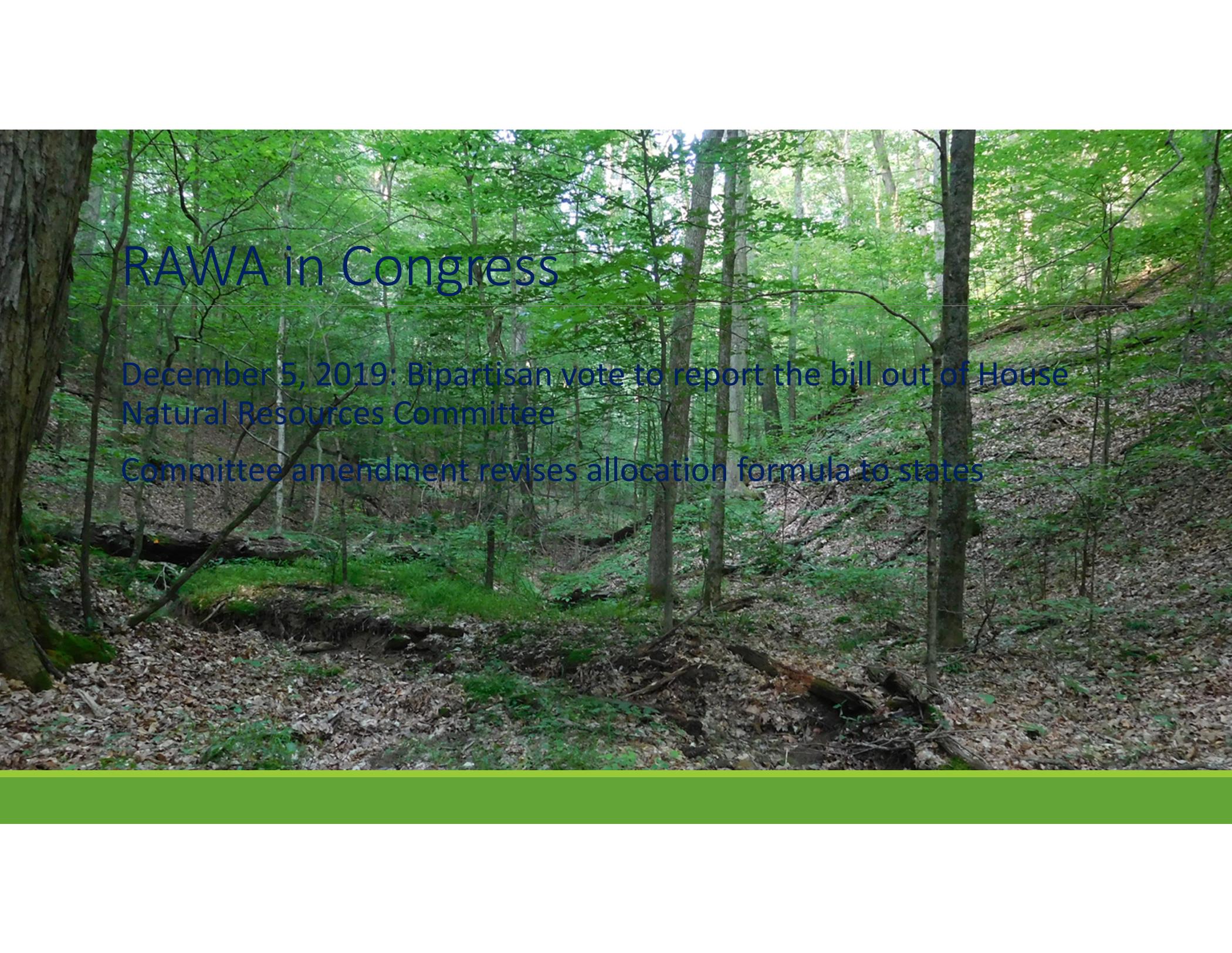
Our Pasture, Our Nation, Our Future.



**Anticipated National
Funding: \$1.3 billion**

INDIANA:

**\$4.5 million state match
to get
\$18 million
Total: \$22.5 million annually
(75:25 match)**



RAWA in Congress

December 5, 2019: Bipartisan vote to report the bill out of House Natural Resources Committee

Committee amendment revises allocation formula to states



Land and Water Conservation Fund

House and Senate bills to fully fund
LWCF at authorized level of \$900
million/year

HR 3195 – 232 cosponsors

S. 1081 – 50 cosponsors

Acting for Conservation

Indiana Outdoor Stewardship Act

Ask your legislators to support and cosponsor a dedicated conservation funding program

Key State Legislators (leadership and committee chairs)

Your legislators, and ...

- Senate President Pro Tem Rod Bray (R-Martinsville)
- Sen. Mark Messmer (R-Jasper)
- Sen. Ryan Mishler (R-Bremen)
- Sen. Susan Glick (R-LaGrange)

- Speaker Brian Bosma (R-Indy)
- Rep. Matt Lehman (R-Berne)
- Rep. Todd Huston (R-Fishers)
- Rep. Tim Brown (R-Crawfordsville)
- Rep. Sean Eberhart (R-Shelbyville)

<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/ind-legislators/>



Acting for Conservation

Grassroots Action

- Engage your networks, friends, fishing, hunting, hiking, paddling buddies: letter-writing parties, green drinks events
- Attend an INCA summit in your area
- Recruit support from local outdoor-related businesses you patronize:
 - retailers (bait & tackle, marinas, outdoor gear retailers)
 - businesses frequented by outdoor recreationists (brewpubs, coffee shops, bed & breakfast, other trail, park, water-related business)

Acting for Conservation

Indiana Conservation Alliance

www.indianaconservationalliance.org

indianaconservationalliance@gmail.com

Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife

<http://aamfw.org/>

Indiana State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)

<https://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/7580.htm>

Tim Maloney, Hoosier Environmental Council

tmaloney@hecweb.org; www.hecweb.org



INDIANA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

"We have fallen heirs to the most glorious heritage a people ever received, and each one must do his part if we wish to show that the nation is worthy of its good fortune."



INDIANA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE